

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 H-02 CU-04 OIC-04

IO-12 ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /148 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 085

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2352

HELSINKI FOR USDEL MPT

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: INITIAL MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

REF: A) STATE 71121; B) USNATO 2154

1. SPC ON MAY 11 DISCUSSED US SUGGESTIONS REGARDING INITIAL MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS ON BASIS US PAPER DRAWN FROM REF A. HIGHLIGHTS AS FOLLOWS:

2. ALL DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE SHOULD BE BRIEF, STRAIGHTFORWARD AND UNPRETENTIOUS. UK ARGUMENT THAT MINISTERS SHOULD NOT DRAFT COMMUNIQUE EMBROIDERING ON AGREEMENTS REACHED IN MPT APPEARED TO RECEIVE GOOD SUPPORT. UK STATED THAT, CONSISTENT WITH THIS VIEW, ALLIES SHOULD NOT DRAFT INTRODUCTORY OR PREAMBULAR FOR COMMUNIQUE AS SUGGESTED PARA. 5 REF A. SPC CONCLUDED BRIEF RULES OF PROCEDURES FOR MINISTERIAL MEETING SHOULD BE AGREED IN MPT. GENERAL FEELING OF SPC WAS THAT MINISTERS NEED NOT CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR COMMITTEES IN CSCE PHASE II (PARA. 3 G, REF A).

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3. ALTHOUGH ALLIED REPS AGREED FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTER MOST REASONABLE CHOICE FOR MINISTERIAL MEETING CHAIRMAN, FRANCE AND UK CAUTIONED IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO AVOID SOME FORM OF ROTATING CHAIRMANSHIP. FRENCH DEL ALSO HOPED CHAIRMANSHIP QUESTION

COULD BE SETTLED BEFORE MINISTERS MET. ALL ALLIED REPS OPPOSED NOTION CONTAINED PARA. 3 G, REF A, THAT DOCUMENTS EMERGING FROM MPT MIGHT NOT BE FULLY AGREED.

4. UK OPPOSED FORMAL WRITTEN AGREEMENT IN MPT ON DATE AND PLACE FOR CSCE PHASE II ARGUING THAT THIS MATTER SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR FIRST CSCE MINISTERIAL. US REP QUESTIONED WHETHER THIS WAS DESIRABLE PROCEDURE BUT OTHER ALLIED REPS OFFERED NO COMMENT. UK REP, WITH SUPPORT OF OTHER DELS, ALSO MAINTAINED THAT INITIAL MINISTERIAL MEETING SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT SET DATE AND PLACE FOR FINAL PHASE OF CSCE SINCE THAT WOULD IN EFFECT CONSTITUTE A DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING CSCE.

5. FRG, SUPPORTED BY FRANCE, AND WITH NO OPPOSITION FROM OTHERS, SUGGESTED THAT MINISTERS, FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF RULES OF PROCEDURES, MIGHT MOVE DIRECTLY TO AGREEMENT ON DOCUMENTS TO BE ISSUED BY MINISTERS, POSTPONING ANY FORMAL STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS TO LATER STAGE OF MINISTERIAL MEETING. ALL ALLIED DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT US SUGGESTION THAT MINISTERIAL MEETING MIGHT REQUIRE 7 OR 8 WORKING DAYS (PARA. 2, REF A) WAS REASONABLE ASSUMPTION, AND SEVERAL DELS HOPED TIME COULD BE SHORTER. UK DEL STATED FOREIGN SECRETARY DOUGLAS- HOME WISHED TO KNOW WHETHER ALLIED FOREIGN MINISTERS INTENDED TO REMAIN THROUGHOUT DURATION OF MINISTERIAL MEETING.

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